

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

Claim 1. (Previously Presented) An image communication apparatus for communicating a color image according to at least one ITU-T recommendation with a distant apparatus, comprising:

original read means for generating image data by reading an original;
identification means for identifying a size of the original read by said original read means;
compression means for compressing image data; and
control means for, in a case where a paper size of the original identified by said identification means is smaller than a paper size defined by the recommendation, causing said original read means to read the original upon adding invalid data thereto to make the image data of the original have a paper size equal to the paper size defined by the recommendation, and causing said compression means to compress the image data having the paper size defined by the recommendation and performing control to set a valid image area of the image data that has been compressed in accordance with the paper size of the original in a case where the image data that has been compressed is transmitted.

Claim 2. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the invalid

data is blank data.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the invalid data is added while said read means reads the original in a main scanning width of the paper size defined by the recommendation with a white plate placed behind the original.

Claim 4. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said compression means performs JPEG compression, and
said control means sets the valid image area by using a comment marker of a JPEG header.

Claims 5 and 6. (Canceled)

Claims 7 and 8. (Withdrawn)

Claims 9 and 10. (Canceled)

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) An image communication method for an image communication apparatus for communicating a color image according to at least one ITU-T recommendation with a distant apparatus, comprising:

an identification step of identifying a paper size of an original;

a read step of reading the original upon adding invalid data thereto to

make the original have a paper size equal to the paper size defined by the recommendation and generating read image data in a case where the paper size of the original, identified in said identification step is smaller than a paper size defined by the recommendation;

a compression step of compressing the read image data; and

a control step of performing control to set a valid image area of the image data compressed by said compression step in accordance with the paper size of the original in a case where the image data is transmitted.

Claim 12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the invalid data is blank data.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the invalid data is added when the original is read in a main scanning width of the paper size defined by the recommendation with a white plate placed behind the original in reading the original.

Claim 14. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein said compression step performs JPEG compression, and

in said control step, the valid image area is set by using a comment marker of a JPEG header.

Claim 15. (Canceled)

Claims 16-18. (Withdrawn)

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for executing an image communication method of transmitting a color image according to at least one ITU-T recommendation to a receiving apparatus, said program comprising:

- code for an identification step for identifying a paper size of an original;
- code for a reading step of reading the original upon adding invalid data thereto to make image data of the original have a paper size equal to the paper size defined by the recommendation and generating read image data, in a case where the paper size of the original identified by said code for the identification step is smaller than a paper size defined by the recommendation;
- code for a compression step of compressing the read image data; and
- code for a control step of controlling to set a valid image area of the image data compressed by the code for the compression step, in accordance with the paper size of the original, in a case where the image data is transmitted.

Claim 20. (Canceled)

Claims 21-23. (Withdrawn)